

WESTMINSTER HOTEL/CHARLES CARROLL BUILDING

EAST MAIN STREET

The "Charles Carroll Building", certainly one of the 2 or 3 most prominent buildings in the Westminster skyline, faces the north side of East Main Street on the northeast corner of that street's intersection with Westminster Avenue. Built of a leonine-colored stretcher bond brick, and topped by a red terra cotta tiled roof, the building impresses by hue as much as by size. The principal (south) facade stretches 8-bays long and is 3½ stories tall at the center of the ground floor; filling 2 bays, is a heavy, rusticated, arched entrance complete with bestial Corinthian columns. The building was built by George W. Albaugh, the City's leading late-Victorian realtor/developer, in 1898 as a hotel. Local papers heralded its arrival on the scene calling it both "chaste and ornate" and noting that "it will be unsurpassed in general merit by any building of the kind elsewhere". Such praise is doubtless based on the buildings individuality, its size, and its wealth of decorative details - the entrance capitals, and a fine array of cornices, chimneys, and lintel/arch arrangements. It is also interesting as an indication of the builder's optimism; the builder had made a fortune in local real estate and doubtless felt that the City's boom, caused by the railroad, would continue into the 20th century, and that the City would have need for such a huge hotel.

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OFF 10-

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Westminster Hotel/Charles Carroll Building

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

East Main Street (MD 32)

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Carroll

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

\_\_\_DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

\_\_\_STRUCTURE

\_\_\_SITE

\_\_\_OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

\_\_\_PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

\_\_\_BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

\_\_\_IN PROCESS

\_\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

\_\_\_OCCUPIED

\_\_\_UNOCCUPIED

☒ WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

\_\_\_YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

**PRESENT USE**

\_\_\_AGRICULTURE

\_\_\_MUSEUM

☒ COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_PARK

\_\_\_EDUCATIONAL

\_\_\_PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_\_ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_\_RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_MILITARY

\_\_\_OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Paul M. Wheeler

Telephone #: 848-3931

STREET & NUMBER

2201 Old Washington Road

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21157

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Carroll County Office Building

Liber #: 406

Folio #: 692

STREET & NUMBER

Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Westminster

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

\_\_\_FEDERAL \_\_\_STATE \_\_\_COUNTY \_\_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CRK-102

**7 DESCRIPTION**

<b>CONDITION</b>	Work in Progress	<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The "Charles Carroll Building", certainly one of the 2 or 3 most prominent buildings in the Westminster skyline, faces the north side of East Main Street (Md. Route 32) on the northeast corner of that street's intersection with Westminster Avenue. Built of a leonine colored stretcher bond brick, and topped by a red "Spanish" tiled roof, the building impresses by hue as much as by size. The principal (south) facade stretches 8 bays long and is 3½ stories tall. At the center of the ground floor, filling two bays, is the entrance - a pair of double doors (currently being redesigned as the entire building undergoes adaptive work) within a rusticated, round arched, projecting setting. The interior of the arch is supported by squatty bestial Corinthian columns - their capitals are extremely intricately carved with scowling beasts glaring out at Main Street. The arch's keystone has 1898 carved in it and the entire ensemble is topped by a shallow balcony; the arch, balcony, and columns are all of buff limestone. This door creates a vertical axis which holds for the 3 main floors (the attic follows its own rules). On the ground floor, there is a W-D-W pattern on each side of this axis. The doors are at present boarded over (underjoining reconstruction) and the windows have double-hung sashes, with one-over-one panes above a high rusticated basement, which provides stone sills for the windows.

On the second floor, the axis is maintained by a pair of segmental arched 1/1 windows with stone sills and lintels. The other windows are flat-capped but similarly treated. All eight 1/1 windows on the third story have round arches but repeat the stone sills. Interestingly, at the second and third stories, the sills are united by a slab of stone, located between the windows, creating a string course, of sorts. A suitably heavy stone modillion cornice separates the roof from the rest of the building. On the south side of the roof are two shed-roofed dormers (a central two bay - with 1/1 windows, and a western 1/1 windowed - one) with a pediment-gabled 1/1 window to the east.

A cubic, pyramidal-roofed tower acts to turn the corner from the south to the west; this turning is aided by the cornice's continuation. (The tower has a pair of segmental arched 1/1 windows on its two exposed sides.) The western roof is divided in half by a tall intricately corbelled chimney, the sides of which are enlivened by a narrow recessed vertical bond; the whole presents a fine angular art nouveau impression. Two broad pediment-capped gables are to the chimney's north, each with a single 1/1 segmental-arched window. A few red tiles fill the space between the window's top and the peak of the pediment. Below are 5 regularly spaced 1/1 windows per floor - those on the third story are segmentally arched, those on the other 2 floors have stone lintels, but all have stone sills. (Ground floor sills are reinforced by a continuation of the rusticated basement.) A three-flight iron fire escape runs up the northern edge of the wall.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

1898

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built by George W. Albaugh, the City's leading late-Victorian realtor/developer, the Westminster Hotel seems to unite all the town's citizens in admiration and makes moot any aesthetic debates. (One is reminded of some lines in Iolanthe: "All questions of party are merged in a frenzy of love and devotion.") The building must be one of the most universally loved in town, which, doubtless, explains why it was chosen to be adapted into a modern bank, rather than razed. (A bank executive claims he is "losing money on the deal".) Before the building was completed, an article in the November 17, 1898 Democratic Advocate boasts of the Hotel's capability to be "chaste and ornate", and comments that "it will be unsurpassed in general merit by any building of the kind elsewhere". So there, M. Ritz. Perhaps its esteem is based on size and prominence - it is easily, along with the firehouse, the most visible building in the skyline, a result not only of its size, but also of its buff walls and red roof. Or perhaps it is based on its wealth of decorative details - the entrance capitals, the cornice, the delicacy of the chimneys, the fine lintel/arch and still treatment.... Or perhaps it is based on the building's individuality; most of the City's buildings are of an evolutionary nature - one leads organically to the next. But there is no precedence for this pile in style or in size. Also, it seems at least possible that people venerate the building because of the way its builder used it as a manifestation of faith in the City's future. Hotels, inns, and taverns had, for a century, been an integral part of the local economy. Here was a new hotel, the likes of which, in size or style, had never been seen in Central Maryland north of Baltimore. Its builder, who had made a fortune in local real estate, doubtless felt that the boom the town had enjoyed during the railroad age would continue into the 20th century, and that the need for such a huge hotel would be great. Unfortunately he was incorrect; transportation and business patterns changed, and the hotel had to change use several times.

As usually happens for buildings built during the 1890's, there is little information for the lot back to the Revolution. Elizabeth Sherman, whose husband, Jacob, had laid out "New London", sold the lot the Hotel was later built on to John Fisher on October 31, 1839 (Carroll County Deed Book WW4, Page 61). Fisher's executors sold the lot, number 31, to John Smith 25

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Being all of lot 31 of the town of New London later incorporated into Westminster.

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Christopher Weeks, Consultant

December, 1976

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Westminster Historical Sites Survey

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

c/o City Hall - Public Works Department

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Westminster

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

#7

Slate mansard roofed extensions formerly stood to the north; they have recently (October 1976) been destroyed as the building's owner prepares to adapt the original (1898) building to suit modern banking needs.

#8

years later (30/403) who sold to Francis T. Orendorff, for \$800, on September 26, 1867 (35/12). The next transaction (Orendorff's sale to Albaugh, 57/392, August 10, 1882) placed the lot in the hands of one who would build the hotel and keep title for 70 years through himself, his company - the George W. Albaugh Real Estate and Brokerage Company - and his trustees. The last group sold the place to the Charles Carroll Hotel Company on November 1, 1956, (268/475) which sold to the present owner on June 3, 1966 (406/692).

... Mason  
... Ananias

**JOHN REESE**

**Learning Citizens---Brief  
Sketch of His Life.**

John Reese, of West  
Main street, to include the sub-  
ject of John Reese, general  
of West Main street.  
... Westminster.  
... male  
... Institute  
... Rev. John A.  
... Then he  
... June  
... until  
... into partic-  
... the late William  
... the latter's  
... which time  
... at the old  
... people. He  
... daughter,  
... 13, 1880, and  
... of whom  
... still survive.  
... twice elected a city  
... 1893, he was  
... by a majority of  
... combination of  
... 1897, he was elected  
... and Review, and  
... many leading citi-  
... president of  
... Loan and Man-  
... Company of Westminister; Secre-  
... The Westminister  
... director in the Bal-  
... Finance Company; a  
... Westminister  
... the Forest  
... the old  
... Ensign  
... Independent Ord-  
... and Royal A-  
... trustees of the

of Mr. J. W. Baldwin 35 East Main street, as one of her own leading enter-prises. Since Christmas holidays are ap- proaching, we are reminded of the fact that the best way to remember your friends is to present them with your pho- tograph, taken by Mr. Baldwin on his satin finish and other processes. They cost but little, and yet represent the high- est class of work, equaling the best of Baltimore productions. His studio has been in operation for nine years, and has achieved a merited reputation for first- class work, containing, as it does, many samples that comprehend the most cher- ished ideals of pose and finish. He makes elegant cabinets, crayon work, does copy- ing and enlarging, and proves his compet- ency to master every detail of the art. In fact, a visit to the studio will repay anybody, as his samples bear the closest scrutiny and please the most exacting.

Mr. Baldwin is a native of Wilmington, Del., a Mason and Knight of Pythias.

**DR. T. J. COONAN.**

**Well-Known Physician and Promi-  
nent Citizen.**

Dr. T. J. Coonan, 102 East Main street, was born at Westminister in 1870, and is therefore in the 28th year of his age. He entered St. Charles's College, six miles above Ellicott City, Howard county, Md., and afterward graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Maryland at Baltimore in 1891. Since then he has been located here in proximity to our homes and busi- ness houses, where his ability is so well understood. He is a grand type of the young, vigorous, capable practitioner, fully abreast with the times, as to the latest discoveries and scientific methods tending in any way to enhance the efficiency of practice. Youth and strength, added to

... the points that  
... who is evi-  
... des in

CXLXXII

his patrons are giving  
consideration.

Mr. Strasburger is a native of Balti- more, and established his present business in Westminister more than two decades ago, in 1877. He carries a big stock of keg and bottled beers; also an extensive line of cigars and tobacco.

He is a pleasant gentleman, accommo- dating, public-spirited to a degree, and, like all worthy business men, deeply in- terested in all that concerns Westminister and her future.

ter in the  
go hand in hand, provided, of course, that the working people receive their just and proper dues.

Mr. A. H. Yingling, the superinten- dent of this factory, has been with the present management eighteen years, and has been connected with the business it- self since 1877. He was one of the orig- inators of the old firm of Smith, Yingling & Co.

177

127

S. S. 84

Line shot  
in the color  
?



**ALBAUGH'S NEW HOTEL--THE WESTMINSTER.**

Ere many days the city will be enriched by one of the most attractive hotel structures which our community of the size possesses. Whoever views its walls now finished exteriorly on East Main street, near Centre, may form some idea of the richness and beauty of the edifice when it issues in perfect form fresh from the work- men's hands. For the reasons are that it will be unsurpassed in general appearance and building of the city. It is four stories high, modern in construction, and equipped with all the latest and best features of hotel architecture, including electric light and heat, superb baths and toilet appointments, tiled flooring, etc. The building is a fine and substantial structure to be called "The Westminister."

CARR-102

102



S. S.



# 129 a

83-129A

○ LINE  
○ HALFTONE  
○ DUOTONE

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

402

129a

S.S.

p. 83

(129)



CXLXX

129

CARA 402

Wentworth Hotel

"

SW juvenile + streetscape

C. Weber 1/77



CARR 402

W. Hotel  
Westminster

2 W. Jacobs

2/77 C. Welch



402

(Grievous Assault)



1 70%



402

~~CXL~~

CXL XXI

128

~~128~~ %

70

0.84

129



CARR 402  
"Westminster Hotel"  
detail - S. facade  
Westminster,  
1/77 C. Wechs



CAMP 402

"Westminster Hotel"

chimney - W. arcade

Westminster

1/77 C. Wick